

**DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY  
ROOSEVELT PARKING WORKGROUP  
JUNE 20, 2005  
CALVARY CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY  
6:00 – 7:30 PM**

**ATTENDEES**

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Tad Bigelow, resident  
Michele DeAnda, Whole Foods  
Laura Larson, Republic Parking NW  
Jim O'Halloran, President, Roosevelt  
Neighborhood Association  
Mike McKinney, resident  
Lynda Prine, Starbucks employee  
Larry Sinnott, Ravenna-Bryant Community  
Association  
Paul Weisner, resident

Robin Anderson, Senior Transit Planner,  
King County Metro  
Chuck Cox, Transit Facilities Security  
Coordinator, King County Metro  
Transit Police  
Diane Horswill, Crime Prevention  
Coordinator, Seattle Police  
Department  
Ross Leonard, Parking Enforcement, Seattle  
Police Department  
Randy Wiger, Seattle Department of  
Transportation

Notes prepared by Randy Wiger

**ACTION ITEMS**

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- SDOT staff will

**NE 68TH ST & 8TH AVE NE PARK & RIDE LOT**

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The fourth and final Roosevelt Parking Workgroup meeting focused on **public safety** and other issues associated with **the Park and Ride lot** (please see the Roosevelt Parking Matrix document for specific agenda items).

Summary:

- There are two lots: one north of NE 65th Street and one south of NE 65th Street.
- The lots have approximately 411 spaces and 10 spaces signed for Disabled Parking.
- Metro checks utilization monthly, and as of January 2005, at least 50 spaces were regularly available, indicating a vacancy of around 11%. Most of these are on the north end of the north lot (closest to Weedon Place).
- Two spaces at the north end are reserved for Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT).
- The Park and Ride area of the Calvary Christian Temple lot has approximately 75 spaces and typically are used to capacity.

- In addition to parking vehicles in the Park and Ride lots and taking the bus, people can also leave their vehicles in the lots when they meet up to carpool and vanpool.
- Spaces are not assigned to specific users and users are not registered to use these lots. Anyone may come and park on a first come, first served basis.
- Metro typically checks the lots once a month on a Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday between 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- Metro sees some increase in lot utilization during the months when the UW is in session.
- Sometimes people have been caught using the lot for long-term storage for a third vehicle and Metro has asked them to leave.
- Yes, the lot is probably abused by some Roosevelt-area who drive to work and park their car in the lot to take advantage of all-day parking.

Question: Does Metro know the origin of people using the lots?

Answer: From all over to the north of the lot. Probably mostly from the city, but some come from outside Seattle.

Question: Is there spillover parking around the Northgate Park and Ride lots into the surrounding neighborhood?

Answer: Those lots are at 100% utilization so, yes, there probably is some spillover parking.

An attendee clarified that the need for the RPZ that was installed on NE 68th between 8th Avenue NE and Roosevelt Way NE was due to increased housing units on the block, not from spillover from the Park and Ride lot or other commuter parking.

## **ABANDONED VEHICLES**

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Attendees raise concerns about abandoned cars that are frequent around the church and on Weedin Place. Diane clarifies that a frequent cause of abandoned vehicles is Mr. Manetti. He is a violent and armed individual who buys cars and then leaves on-street and in the Park and Ride lot.

In general the Parking Enforcement Unit receives a large volume of calls each day reporting abandoned vehicles. The city's 72-hour time limit requires that a vehicle be parked on-street for at least three days before it may be considered possibly abandoned. It may then take as long as one to two weeks for Parking Enforcement officers to come by and place a warning sticker on the vehicle, and then they must wait another three days before they can begin to classify them as abandoned and begin the towing process. Citizens are encouraged to use the new online form for reporting abandoned vehicles:

[https://www.ci.seattle.wa.us/police/forms/Abandoned\\_Vehicles.htm](https://www.ci.seattle.wa.us/police/forms/Abandoned_Vehicles.htm)

Parking Enforcement Officers are civilian employees who have a narrow range of enforcement-related activities they are allowed to perform. Over the years as neighborhoods have increased in density - with associated increases in vehicles and complaints, and as the city has installed more RPZs and more blocks are added to existing RPZs, the amount of labor in Parking Enforcement has not kept pace with the increases in the need for enforcement.

Question: Can the city deputize citizens to write parking tickets, like in Atlanta?

Answer: No, Washington state law (RCW) prohibits this, except for Disabled Parking spaces.

### **CAR CAMPING**

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Car camping occurs in many places in Seattle, not just in Roosevelt. Car camping (people living in their vehicles) is not illegal in Seattle, although nuisance behavior that often accompanies car camping (like public urination and defecation, trash, etc.) is.

Police officers do engage car campers and sometimes discover the person has an outstanding warrant. Car camping does get pushed from one area of the city to other areas from time to time. A solution to reducing car camping seems to be neighborhood empowerment. It is recommended that local residents contact the area's Crime Prevention Coordinator Diane Horswill to learn more about what they can do (684-7711 or [diane.horswill@seattle.gov](mailto:diane.horswill@seattle.gov)) and to engage the Community Police Team Officer for their area.

If one calls 911 or the non-emergency police number (206-625-5011) early in the morning (such as 5:30 a.m.) police may be more available to respond to car camping complaints.

Question: Does the local crime rate go down when car camping is reduced or pushed out of a neighborhood?

Answer: Not necessarily. Often crime associated with car camping is self-destructive, such as illegal drug use or excessive drinking, or stealing items that are not "tied down." There is not so much of car prowls (or other crimes) associated with car camping although it sometimes happens.

### **CAR PROWLS AND LIGHTING**

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Question: How can car prowls be tracked?

Answer: Citizens can get crime statistics by census block at:  
<http://seattle.gov/police/crime/stats/pur170/200503y.htm>

The core Roosevelt area falls partially in Census Tract 3600 (036) west of Roosevelt Way NE, and partially in Census Tract 2600 (026) east of Roosevelt Way NE.

Question: Does better lighting help? Recently someone was mugged at a bus stop at NE 65th and Ravenna Boulevard.

Answer: Yes, but developing a way to improve lighting can be challenging. Yes, the city does try to direct street lights onto bus shelters and does place secondary lights on poles near to bus shelters. Also Metro staff commented on a project involving lighting at area bus stops to in Roosevelt and Green Lake that can help to re-knit these neighborhoods.

Comment: At a Roosevelt Square business there have been 5 car prowls of employee vehicles this week. We have changed shift schedules so that female employees are no longer getting off at midnight. Diane indicates she is available to talk with the business and with the employees. In general it is sometimes amazing the things that people leave in plain sight in their cars. Jim

indicates Diane has recently attended a Roosevelt Neighborhood Association meeting and there is community interest in working with her on crime prevention. Diane distributed handouts on tips to prevent car prowls and auto theft.

**NEXT MEETING**

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This is the final meeting of the Roosevelt Parking Workgroup. The next step is for SDOT to draft a Roosevelt Parking Action Strategy and convene a Community Forum to review it.

**Meeting Adjourned**

**Parking in Roosevelt  
Agenda for June 20, 2005 Meeting**

**Roosevelt & 68th Park & Ride  
Public Safety Concerns and  
Spillover Parking Concerns**

Robin Anderson, Senior Transit Planner, King County Metro  
Chuck Cox, Transit Facilities Security Coordinator, King County Metro Transit Police  
Diane Horswill, Crime Prevention Coordinator, Seattle Police Department  
Ross Leonard, Parking Enforcement, Seattle Police Department  
Randy Wiger, Neighborhood Parking, Seattle Department of Transportation

**Concerns:**

- a) Public safety concerns related to car prowls and assaults.
- b) Car camping creates problems (Cowan Park - corner of NE 62nd St and Brooklyn Ave NE).
- c) Abandoned cars are frequent around the church and on Weedin Place.
- d) Park and Ride Lot gets full and results in commuter "hide and ride" spillover parking into neighborhood (especially impacted are surrounding streets: NE 66th to 68th St, and 8th Ave NE to 12th Ave NE).

**Opportunities:**

- e) Improve/simplify use of transit area under I-5 (improve lighting, safety).
- f) Use space under I-5 to create "double-decker" parking area.
- g) Raise awareness of options available to parking users.
- h) Improve the functioning of Roosevelt area as a transit hub.
- i) Pedestrian safety needs to be improved.
- j) Bicycle lanes/paths are disconnected and need to be improved.
- k) Could more Flexcars be located in the neighborhood?